

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. There has been no visible improvement in the food situation in Rumania. Numerous stores in Bucharest and certain cities in the region have windows displaying a variety of goods. However, it seems that the goods are shown exclusively for propaganda purposes and they are not accessible except to a small minority of privileged persons. Almost all the food markets are controlled by State stores where buyers must wait, sometimes hours, to get the most basic items. The large open markets have almost disappeared entirely. There are still a few in the suburbs where authorized peasants may sell part of their surplus. Without ration coupons one can buy vegetables, eggs, cheese and milk at these open markets. There are still high restrictions on meat. For a certain number of food articles there are three prices: free market, black market and rationed. 25X1
2. Life is especially difficult for families in which only one member works; for old people; and more, for the "class enemies" who are strictly kept apart from the working group. The latter have no ration cards, although they receive housing, heat and electricity.
3. Black marketing of meat is done principally by peasants living in the suburbs of the city. They, along with the itinerant vegetable sellers, have succeeded in obtaining regular customers.
4. The State has set up special stores for Party members, factory leaders and other privileged to buy provisions. The stores are known as G.M. State control of almost all production is found in every type of work, including shoemakers and tailors who work on the collective plan.
5. In regard to land quotas, there was a case of a peasant, owner of four hectares of arable land, who was obliged to deliver to the State 600 liters of milk per year despite the fact that he did not own a cow.
6. The following are some examples of prices:

Black bread (1 kg.) .70 lei with ration ticket;
2 lei on open market.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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White bread (400 gr.) 2.80 lei open market
 White flour (1 kg.) 5 lei free market
 (Wheat is requisitioned from the producer at .20 lei per kg.)
 Sugar (1 kg.) 4 lei rationed; 25 lei black market
 Egg 1.10 lei rationed; 1.50 - 3 lei free market
 Milk (1 liter) 1.10 lei rationed; 3 to 4 lei free market
 Pork (1 kg.) 24 lei black market
 (Beef is distributed on ration tickets at 150 gr. per week)
 Herring (1 kg.) 12 - 20 lei free market
 Lemons or oranges (1 kg.) 25 lei free market
 Women's sandals (bad quality) 400 lei free market

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